(d) There is no need to appoint a special squad of auditors to investigate the matter as the accounts for the above period have been duly audited by statutory auditors appointed by the Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies.

Extension of time for clearing and forwarding agent of NAFED

2609. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one agent is continuing in NAFED at Bombay for clearing and forwarding at Port and Rail-ways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the said agent is being granted extension even after the expiry of date of agreement and also granted increase in the rates during the agreement period; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) and (b) M|s. Ramdas Pragji & Sons were appointed as clearing and forwarding (C&F) agent at Bombay on regular basis from the year 1982-83 after inviting quotations through newspapers etc. Their agency was extended upto 31-12-1984. They were again appointed C & F agents for 1984-85. Further extension was allowed till 30-9-1988. However, fresh quotations have been invited for appointment of C & F agents at Bombay for the period 1988—90.

(c) and (d) As per guidelines formulated by NAFED for appointment of service agents including C & F agents, the quotations given by various agents are negotiated and subject to satisfactory performance and competitive rates, their agency can be renewed. In view of this, the renewals were granted to M|s. Ramdas Pragji & Sons from time to time as mentioned above. There is also a provision in the guidelines that the existing C & F agents may continue to work even after expiry of the contract period on the same rates till arrangements for regular appointment|renewal of agency are made. Further, no increase in rates is allowed during the pendency of the agreement except for statutory increase in the rates of labour wages or hike in fuel in transport rates etc. Under this provision an increase in transportation charges by 20 per cent and labour charges by Rs. 2.80 PMT was allowed on 16-12-1985. An amount of Rs. 2500 per container was also allowed on 16-7-1986 as charges for stuffing the containers with export cargo of nigerseed which was a new item and was not covered under original contract.

Encroachment of land in Basant village

2610. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India informed an Honourable Member vide their communication No. J-130336|1|86-UD-1113|860 dated 3rd March, 1986 that the DDA has initiated action against some encroachers of public thoroughfare in Basant village and that DDA will proceed against them as per the provisions of the DDA Act, 1957;

(b) whether the DDA had also vide their communication No. CE|LP|18-A|85|1176 dated 13th December, 1985 informed the same Hon'ble Member that action for the removal of the illegal encroachments would be taken after completion of procedural formalities;

(c) if so, whether the above said actions were initiated and completed;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether communications in this regard have been recently received by Government from Hon'ble Member of Parliament; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) DDA has reported that notices were issued in 53 cases where the unauthorised construction have taken place in village Vasant during 1984—87 under the Delhi Development Act, 1957. However, no demolition operation was conducted.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. DDA has been directed to look into the matter expeditiously and furnish a report. MCD is also being advised to take appropriate action for the demolition of these constructions.

Chowkidar in C.W.C.

2611. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are 11 godowns within a radius of 26 KMs under Central Warehouse, Belda, Calcutta Region;

(b) whether Government have posted Chowkidars in sufficient number to guard these scattered godowns;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether due to present inadequate strength of Chowkidars to man these Godown, the existing Chowkidars have to perform duties from 6 A. M. to 10 P. M. regularly;

(e) if so, whether the extra hours of work is not likely to reflect upon the efficiency of the Chowkidars on account of strain; and

(f) whether Government propose to take any steps to post adequate number of Chowkidars to man these warehouses?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA): (a) The Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) is operating 8 hired godowns with a total capacity of 3340 tonnes located in 5 different areas within a radius of about 16 KMs. under the Central Warehouse, Belda.

(b) and (c) The Corporation has posted six Chowkidars at this Warehouse, against the admissible norms of 3 Chowkidars, keeping in view the scattered location of the godowns. These Chowkidars are deployed for watch and ward arrangement during night. Since the godowns are located in a village/semi-urbanised area, the Corporation does not consider it necessary to post Chowkidars during day time in view of the additional cost involved.

(d) to (f) Do not arise.

Impact of Floods in Punjab, Haryana etc. on foodgrain production

2612. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the severe flood situation in Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh will not be a hurdle in the fulfilment of the target of 166.57 M.T. of foodgrains production during the current year; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. The floods due to heavy rains in the month of September in Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir will not come in the way to achieve the National foodgrains production target of 166.57 million tonnes during the current year (1988-89).

(b) Does not arise.

Demurrage paid by FCI

2613. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of demurrage paid by the Food Corporation of India to the Railways during the last three years, year-wise, and the reasons therefor; and